

that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 469, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: "Resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding a cooperative fire suppression agreement with Mexico."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SHACKLEFORD BANKS WILD HORSES PROTECTION ACT

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 765) to ensure maintenance of a herd of wild horses in Cape Lookout National Seashore.

The Clerk read as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. MAINTENANCE OF WILD HORSES IN CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE.

Section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Cape Lookout National Seashore in the State of North Carolina, and for other purposes", approved March 10, 1966 (Public Law 89-366; 16 U.S.C. 459g-4), is amended by inserting "(a)" after "Sec. 5.", and by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b)(1) The Secretary, in accordance with this subsection, shall allow a herd of 100 free roaming horses in Cape Lookout National Seashore (hereinafter referred to as the 'Seashore'): *Provided*, That nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude the Secretary from implementing or enforcing the provisions of paragraph (3).

"(2) Within 180 days after enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the Foundation for Shackleford Horses (a nonprofit corporation established under the laws of the State of North Carolina), or another qualified nonprofit entity, to provide for management of free roaming horses in the seashore. The agreement shall—

"(A) provide for cost-effective management of the horses while ensuring that natural resources within the seashore are not adversely impacted; and,

"(B) allow the authorized entity to adopt any of those horses that the Secretary removes from the seashore.

"(3) The Secretary shall not remove, assist in, or permit the removal of any free roaming horses from Federal lands within the boundaries of the seashore—

"(A) unless the entity with whom the Secretary has entered into the agreement under paragraph (2), following notice and a 90-day response period, fails to meet the terms and conditions of the agreement; or

"(B) unless the number of free roaming horses on Federal lands within Cape Lookout National Seashore exceeds 110; or

"(C) except in the case of an emergency, or to protect public health and safety.

"(4) The Secretary shall annually monitor, assess, and make available to the public findings regarding the population, structure, and health of the free roaming horses in the national seashore.

"(5) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require the Secretary to replace

horses or otherwise increase the number of horses within the boundaries of the seashore where the herd numbers fall below 100 as a result of natural causes, including, but not limited to, disease or natural disasters.

"(6) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as creating liability for the United States for any damages caused by the free roaming horses to property located inside or outside the boundaries of the seashore."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to first thank my colleagues and staff in the House, the Senate, and the White House for helping secure passage of this important legislation. The Shackleford Banks Wild Horse Protection Act requires the National Park Service to work in alliance with a nonprofit entity to maintain a herd of no less than 100 horses, a number consistent with the number of horses on the island when the Park Service assumed ownership. H.R. 765 is needed to preserve this historically rich herd of wild horses.

It was my intent and the Committee on Resources' intent to designate the Foundation for Shackleford Banks as the nonprofit agency to work with the Park Service. The Senate concurred by passing its version, also. Throughout the process, the foundation was listed in the legislation further indicating Congress' intent. I am confident that the foundation, as listed in the legislation, and the Park Service will develop a long-range management plan for the horses.

Again, I would like to thank my colleagues and ask for their support for H.R. 765.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 765 introduced by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES), a member of the Committee on Resources, requires the National Park Service to maintain a herd of wild horses on Shackleford Banks at Cape Lookout National Seashore. On July 16, 1998, President Clinton signed Public Law 105-202, the Peace Garden Memorial extension. Included as part of that law was language that is identical to the gentleman's bill, which is H.R. 765.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to highly commend my good friend and colleague from North Carolina for his ingenuity

in seeing that although this has already become law but I think for reassurances to make sure that the gentleman's horses on Shackleford are duly protected. I want to commend the gentleman for his persistence in making sure that this matter is going to be taken care of. I say to my colleagues that this matter has been addressed, although I think it is good that we need to give this reinforcement in the process. I thank my good friend from North Carolina for his persistence in this bill.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, H.R. 765.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 765.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the Senate amendment to H.R. 765.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM NEW AREA STUDIES ACT

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1728) to provide for the development of a plan and a management review of the National Park System and to reform the process by which areas are considered for addition to the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1728

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Park System New Area Studies Act".

SEC. 2. STUDY OF NEW PARK SYSTEM AREAS.

Section 8 of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5; popularly known as the National Park System General Authorities Act) is amended as follows:

(1) By inserting "GENERAL AUTHORITY.—" after "(a)".

(2) By striking the second through the seventh sentences of subsection (a).

(3) By designating the last two sentences of subsection (a) as subsection (e) and inserting in the first of such sentences before the words "For the purposes of carrying" the following: "(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—"

(4) By inserting the following after subsection (a):

"(b) **STUDIES OF AREAS FOR POTENTIAL ADDITION.**—(1) At the beginning of each calendar year, along with the annual budget submission, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate a list of areas recommended for study for potential inclusion in the National Park System.

"(2) In developing the list to be submitted under this subsection, the Secretary shall give consideration to those areas that have the greatest potential to meet the established criteria of national significance, suitability, and feasibility. The Secretary shall give special consideration to themes, sites, and resources not already adequately represented in the National Park System.

"(3) No study of the potential of an area for inclusion in the National Park System may be initiated after the date of enactment of this subsection, except as provided by specific authorization of an Act of Congress.

"(4) Nothing in this Act shall limit the authority of the National Park Service to conduct preliminary resource assessments, gather data on potential study areas, provide technical and planning assistance, prepare or process nominations for administrative designations, update previous studies, or complete reconnaissance surveys of individual areas requiring a total expenditure of less than \$25,000.

"(5) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to or to affect or alter the study of any river segment for potential addition to the national wild and scenic rivers system or to apply to or to affect or alter the study of any trail for potential addition to the national trails system.

"(c) **REPORT.**—(1) The Secretary of the Interior shall complete the study for each area for potential inclusion in the National Park System within 3 complete fiscal years following the date of enactment of specific legislation providing for the study of such area. Each study under this section shall be prepared with appropriate opportunity for public involvement, including at least one public meeting in the vicinity of the area under study, and after reasonable efforts to notify potentially affected landowners and State and local governments.

"(2) In conducting the study, the Secretary shall consider whether the area under study—

"(A) possesses nationally significant natural or cultural resources and represents one of the most important examples of a particular resource type in the country; and

"(B) is a suitable and feasible addition to the system.

"(3) Each study—

"(A) shall consider the following factors with regard to the area being studied—

"(i) the rarity and integrity of the resources;

"(ii) the threats to those resources;

"(iii) similar resources are already protected in the National Park System or in other public or private ownership;

"(iv) the public use potential;

"(v) the interpretive and educational potential;

"(vi) costs associated with acquisition, development and operation;

"(vii) the socioeconomic impacts of any designation;

"(viii) the level of local and general public support, and

"(ix) whether the area is of appropriate configuration to ensure long-term resource protection and visitor use;

"(B) shall consider whether direct National Park Service management or alternative protection by other public agencies or the private sector is appropriate for the area;

"(C) shall identify what alternative or combination of alternatives would in the professional judgment of the Director of the National Park Service be most effective and efficient in

protecting significant resources and providing for public enjoyment; and

"(D) may include any other information which the Secretary deems to be relevant.

"(4) Each study shall be completed in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

"(5) The letter transmitting each completed study to Congress shall contain a recommendation regarding the Secretary's preferred management option for the area.

"(d) **LIST OF AREAS.**—At the beginning of each calendar year, along with the annual budget submission, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate a list of areas which have been previously studied which contain primarily historical resources, and a list of areas which have been previously studied which contain primarily natural resources, in numerical order of priority for addition to the National Park System. In developing the lists, the Secretary should consider threats to resource values, cost escalation factors, and other factors listed in subsection (c) of this section. The Secretary should only include on the lists areas for which the supporting data is current and accurate."

(5) By adding at the end of subsection (e) (as designated by paragraph (3) of this section) the following: "For carrying out subsections (b) through (d) there are authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1728 is a bill introduced by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY). The gentleman from Colorado is to be commended for the hard work he has done to craft a bill that addresses needed changes in current law dealing with how new units are added to the National Park System.

H.R. 1728 provides for the development of a plan and a management review of the National Park System to reform the current process by which areas are considered for addition to the National Park System. The bill would assist the National Park Service in planning for the future of the National Park System and provide a structured process to ensure that the Congress considers only the most worthy nationally important sites for inclusion in any expansion of the National Park System.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important bill, and H.R. 1728 provides a better way to include worthy areas into the park system. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1728.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1728 establishes new procedures by which potential new additions to the National Park System are studied. The bill is identical to the language in title II of H.R. 260 from the 104th Congress.

The administration and other interested parties are in general support of putting in place new procedures for the study of potential additions to the National Park System. These new procedures make a lot of sense to me. They will improve the quality of information we have on potential additions to the National Park System, as well as help prioritize our consideration of such additions.

With the minor changes to the bill that were made by the Committee on Resources, I think the House should give the bill its unqualified support. I urge my colleagues to adopt this proposed bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1728, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1728, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING EXPANSION OF FORT DAVIS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3047) to authorize expansion of Fort Davis National Historic Site in Fort Davis, Texas, by 16 acres.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3047

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXPANSION OF FORT DAVIS HISTORIC SITE, FORT DAVIS, TEXAS.

The Act entitled "An Act Authorizing the establishment of a national historic site at Fort Davis, Jeff Davis County, Texas", approved September 8, 1961 (75 Stat. 488; 16 U.S.C. 461 note), is amended in the first section by striking "not to exceed four hundred and sixty acres" and inserting "not to exceed 476 acres".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and the